

WHAT IS A CLOTTED OR LAYERED UNSATISFACTORY SPECIMEN?



An **unsatisfactory** specimen is one that is poor quality in which the Newborn Screening adequacy may be affected

What are the reasons a specimen is deemed **unsatisfactory**?

- Quantity Insufficient (QNS)
- Contaminated
- * **Clotted or Layered**
- Specimen Too Old
- Scratched or Abraded
- Damaged in Transit

What does **Layered or Clotted** mean?

- Blood drops are stacked on top of one another.
- A blood clot formed.

How to prevent collecting a **Layered or Clotted** specimen:

- Allow one large drop to form and fall on pre-printed circle.
- Ensure blood soaks through to opposite side.
- Add additional drops anywhere on filter paper, even on top of the text.
- Blood drops should NOT touch one another.
- Dry card flat with blood application side facing up!
- Avoid using devices like capillary tubes.

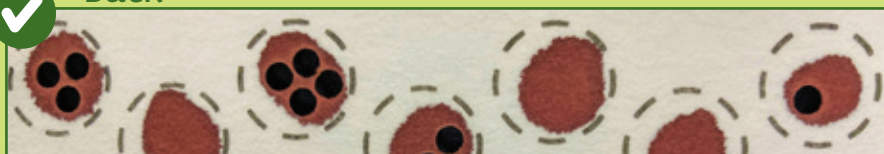
Examples of Satisfactory Specimens



Front



Back



What causes **Layering or Clotting**?

- Multiple drops are applied to the same pre-printed circle.
- Trying to fill the circle with multiple drops
- Possible delay in application of blood drop which resulted in a clot

What does a **Layered or Clotted** specimen look like?

Multiple drops applied to the same pre-printed circle.



Clotted



Questions or concerns?

Contact the Newborn Screening Quality Improvement team at:
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